

## Updates to the Express Scripts DAW 9 program

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### Estrace Cream® and Cialis® to be removed, Cordran® to be added to DAW program for high cost generics

The Brand-for-Generic Substitution Program (DAW 9) allows Express Scripts to drive down the cost of drugs by dispensing the branded medication in situations where the generic equivalent is more expensive for plan sponsors. In these situations, members will directly share in savings via a generic copay/coinsurance instead of a brand copay/coinsurance.

Effective March 26, Cordran® is being **added** to the DAW 9 program. Express Scripts clients that participate in the program will require Cordran® to be dispensed over the more expensive generic alternative. For participating clients, the appropriate brand name drug and Dispense as Written (DAW) code 9 “Substitution Allowed By Prescriber but Plan Requests Brand - Patient’s Plan Requested Brand Product To Be Dispensed” will be required on the claim submission. Members will share in these savings via a generic copay/coinsurance instead of a brand copay/coinsurance. Additional management within this therapy class is being evaluated to identify further opportunity for client and member savings.

Due to additional generic entrants over the last year for Estrace Cream®, we anticipate generic pricing may become deeper. As a result, the brand medication will no longer result in the lowest net cost. Additionally, multiple generic entrants are expected to enter the market upon expiration of the exclusivity period for Cialis® which may also result in deeper generic pricing. Effective March 26, Express Scripts will **discontinue** the standard DAW 9 program for Estrace Cream® and Cialis®. For clients enrolled in this program, prescription claims for the brand-name drug will no longer process successfully with DAW 9. The claim will reject with NCPDP Reject 22 “Missing/Invalid Dispense as Written (DAW)/Product Selection Code.” The response will also include a secondary message of “DRUG NOT APPRVD FOR DAW9 FOR

THIS CLIENT.” These claims should be resubmitted with the generic drug and appropriate DAW code.

The chart below contains the current list of brand medications included in this program, as well as the excluded higher net-cost generic equivalents. **Please note: Estrace Cream® and Cialis® will be removed from the program on March 26.**

Covered brand drug	Excluded generic drug
Adderall XR®	dextroamphetamine-amphetamine ER
Advair Diskus®	Wixela™ Inhub™, fluticasone/salmeterol DISKUS
Canasa®	mesalamine suppositories
Concerta®	methylphenidate ER
Cordran®	flurandrenolide
Rapaflo®	Sildenafil
Uceris®	Budesonide
Welchol Packets®	colesevelam HCL
Welchol Tablets®	colesevelam HCL

### NCPDP Reject 70

Claims submitted for the generics listed in the table above will reject with NCPDP Reject 70 “Product/Service Not Covered – Plan/Benefit Exclusion” along with the secondary message “RESUBMIT WITH BRAND AND DAW 9.”

Please be aware of the following:

- If you resubmit with DAW 1, the paid claim will default to the higher brand copay for the member.
- If you are not able to submit DAW 9 claims through your pharmacy system, please contact your corporate headquarters or software vendor.
- To avoid patient delays in receiving their prescriptions, please ensure that you have sufficient stock of the brand in your pharmacy.

If you need a member’s specific prescription processing information or other help with a claim, please visit our Pharmacist Resource Center at <https://prc.express-scripts.com>.

Thank you,

Provider Outreach Team  
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